

**Version with markings to show changes made**

**CLAIMS**

What is claimed is:

1. (Original) An apparatus for trimming candle wicks comprising:
  - A means of vertically trimming a candle wick
  - A means of candle wick clipping removal from the immediate surroundings of the candle or container
  - A means to hold multiple candle wick clippings in the instrument
2. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the instrument has a cutting devise and a backing pad upon which to produce a cutting or trim plane.
3. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the instrument has a dual opposing cutting devise surface
4. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the instrument has a scissor like action or reverse scissors like action.
5. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the instrument has a loop type cutting tool.
6. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the instrument has a tweezers like action.
7. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the instrument has a pocket to hold the wick clipping or multiple wick clippings.
8. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein a means of suction is used to vacuum the wick clipping to a holding pocket so that more wicks can be trimmed prior to discard.
9. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the instrument has a manual tilt ability to be able to move the NUB to the holding pocket by gravity for multiple NUB collection.
10. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the unit is fabricated of metal, glass, ceramic, plastic, of other and combinations of these or like items.

11. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the instrument has a length to trim the wick per candle manufacturers established distance above the cooled wax surface of the candle.

12. (Original) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the instrument has an adjustable length to trim the wick to the operator preferred distance above the cooled wax surface of the candle.

13. (Original) A method for clipping candle wicks comprising the steps of

- Inserting an instrument into a candle or candle container either vertically or predominately vertically;
- Trim and hold the wick clipping of a candle;
- Removal of the instrument from the candle or candle container while holding the wick clipping;
- Discarding of the wick clipping or multiple use of the instrument prior to discarding the wick clipping.

14. (Original) A method of claim 13, wherein the instrument is sufficiently narrow to allow vertical or predominately vertical entry into the candle or candle container.

15. (Original) A method of claim 13, wherein one or two trimming devices cut the virgin or substantial portion of the wick material.

16. (Original) A method of claim 13, wherein the instrument encapsulates the wick clipping for removal.

17. (Original) A method of claim 13, wherein the instrument holds multiple wick clippings prior to disposal.

18. (Original) A method of claim 13, wherein the instrument cuts the candlewick to the manufactures and/or the operations recommended or desired length.

19. (Original) A method of claim 13, wherein the instrument uses a scissors or reverse scissors or trigger action to accomplish this method.

20. (Original) A method of claim 13 wherein the instrument may be used to remove loose NUBS laying on the cooled wax floor thus not requiring candle inversion for removal.